IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, lines 1 to 25, replace the paragraphs with the following amended paragraphs.

The invention relates to the multilayered steel armour for both the defense and civilian ballistic protection application.

The techniques of armouring applied both in civilian and ~~defense~~military realms make use of the various monolithic and/or composite steel armours in the role of assembly components and parts. Hand in hand with the ever-increasing requirements of the degree of ~~the~~ ballistic protection, the technical capacity to meet such requirements has become virtually exhausted when only monolithic armour materials are concerned and therefore we have been recently witnessing a gradual shift of emphasis towards the application and use of two-layered materials bonded together.

These two-layered steel armour plates are usually made from a suitable combination of two kinds of materials having quite different properties. The front-face layer, intended to break or shatter attacking bullets, is usually made from ~~the~~ steel of very ~~hihg~~high hardness containing, for example, 0.5 wt% to 1.5 wt% of carbon, 0.2 wt% to 2.0 wt% of manganese, 0.1 wt% to 1.5 wt% of silicone, 0.2 wt% to 8.0 wt% of chromium, 0.1 wt% to 4.0 wt% of nickel, 0.2 wt% to 6.0 wt% of

tungsten, 0.05 wt% to 0.5 wt% vanadium and the rest being iron and other accompanying elements and impurities.

Page 2, lines 1 to 29, replace the paragraphs with the following amended paragraphs.

The backing layer is formed by the more conventional armour steel material, intended to absorb the remainder of bullet and fragments kinetic energy with a higher toughness containing, for example, 0.2 wt% to 0.6 wt% of carbon, 0.3 wt% to 2.0 wt% of manganese, 0.1 wt% to 2.0 wt% of silicone, 0.1 wt% to 3.0 wt% of chromium, 0.2 wt% to 4.5 wt% of nickel, 0.1 wt% to 1.0 wt% of molybdenum and the rest being iron and other accompanying elements and impurities. These two-layered plates are produced using technology of explosive cladding (high-velocity impact cladding) or by rolling together the individual layers at elevated temperature, wide-area welding techniques, by casting and successive pressure forming or by welding the initial semi- finished products under the molten welding flux and other similar technologies.

The common disadvantage of all these two-layered steel armour ~~plated~~ plates is the widely different physical and technological properties of the front and the backing layer, resulting in [[~~a~~]] considerable and undesirable changes ~~of~~in shape of the two-layered armor plates taking place, both during their manufacturing process giving the plates ~~the~~their

basic shape, and during ~~the~~ thermal treatment of the completed and deployed armor. Another and very serious disadvantage of these two-layered armor plates is ~~an~~the ease with which the cracks are able to propagate themselves through the mass of the armour material once under a severe ballistic load.

Page 4, line 22 to page 5, line 13, replace the paragraph with the following amended paragraph.

The disadvantages associated with existing multilayered techniques or armour design and manufacturing are to a great extent eliminated by the multilayered steel armour consisting of the front-face ballistic-resistant armour layer and the backing armour layer, which are fully on the whole surface metallurgically bonded by means of at least one joining metallic intermediate layer, for example, by casting, wide-area welding techniques, using technology of explosive cladding (high-velocity impact cladding), by roll welding or by combination of the previous techniques, according to the invention. The invention is based on the fact[[,]] that the joining metallic intermediate layer between front-face ballistic-resistant armour layer and backing armour layer is made from the material featuring the face-centered cubic crystalline lattice (FCC lattice), in particular, from ~~the~~a nickel alloy containing maximally 98.0 wt% of nickel and/or from steel.

Page 7, lines 7 to 15, replace the paragraph with the following amended paragraph.

However, ~~the~~an alternative implementation of the herein invention can use more that just these three basic layers. Between the front-face ballistic-resistant armour layer and the backing armour layer at least one more extra internal armour layer is inserted. If this is the case, all the inserted internal armour layers are joined and sandwiched together using the above described joining metallic intermediate layers as per herein described invention.

Page 7, lines 25 to 32, replace the paragraph with the following amended paragraph.

When implementing this alternative mode of the hereby described invention, the thicknesses of the inserted internal armour layers can be either equal to each other or they can mutually differ and the sum total of the thicknesses of all inserted armour layers and the corresponding joining metallic intermediate layers represents 1.5 % to 60 % of the total thickness of multilayered steel armour according to the invention.

Page 9, lines 1 to 5, replace the paragraph with the following amended paragraph.

The invention will be further clarified in more detail using the schematic drawings, ~~where is:~~wherein.

Fig. 1 [[-]]shows a multilayered steel armour according to the invention with three layers, and

Fig. 2 [[-]]shows a multilayered steel armour with seven layers.

Description of the ~~preferred~~Preferred Embodiments